

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<http://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>

Churchwardens:

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Sunday 7 January 2017 Epiphany
10.30 All Age Worship: The Three Kings

WELCOME TO ANY OF YOU VISITING US FOR THE FIRST TIME!

Please announce yourself to one of our welcomers and sign in the welcome book so that we get to know you by name! Also, please introduce yourself to one of the Churchwardens. St Guthlac's is YOUR local church. We feel part of the local community and we hope that you will feel part of the church community. **We have a welcome sheet:** please ask for one if it is not handed to you on arrival.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND MEETINGS

January

Monday 8 th	2.00pm	Standing Committee meeting
Tuesday 9 th	7.30pm	PCC meeting
Wednesday 10 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 11 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Neil Bullen
Thursday 11 th	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 14 th	10.30am	Communion for All, President & Preacher: Canon Dr Stephen Foster
Wednesday 17 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 18 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Adrian Jones
Thursday 18 th	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 21 st	10.30am	Communion for All, President & Preacher: Archdeacon Tim Stratford
Wednesday 24 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 25 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Adrian Jones
Thursday 25 th	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 28 th	10.30am	Matins
Tuesday 30 th	7.00pm	Tea & Talk: Taste of Faith
Wednesday 31 st	7.30pm	Choir practice

February

Thursday 1 st	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Neil Bullen
Thursday 1 st	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 4 th	10.30am	All Age Worship: Samuel
Wednesday 7 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 8 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Neil Bullen
Thursday 8 th	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 11 th	10.30am	Communion for All
Tuesday 12 th	7.00pm	Worship Committee meeting
Wednesday 14 th	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday joint service at St. Mary's
Thursday 15 th	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Adrian Jones
Thursday 15 th	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 18 th	10.30am	Matins
Sunday 18 th	10.30am	Sunday Club in Holbrook Hall
Sunday 18 th	2.00pm	Knighton Players rehearsal in the Parish Centre
Wednesday 21 st	7.30pm	Choir practice
Thursday 22 nd	9.30am	Holy Communion, Celebrant: Revd. Neil Bullen
Thursday 22 nd	6.45pm	Knighton Players rehearsal
Sunday 25 th	10.30am	Communion for All
Sunday 25 th	2.00pm	Knighton Players rehearsal in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 27 th	7.00pm	Tea & Talk: Film, Housewife 49
Wednesday 28 th	7.30pm	Choir practice

THANK YOU Very many thanks to all the clergy who are generously giving their time to officiate at our services.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS We have been asked to keep **Bob and Janice Newell, Susan Ellson, Chanchal Barber and her daughter Nita, Chris Ellis, Ann Spring, Alison Prior and Bill & Ann Ibbs** in our prayers. For other prayer requests, please speak to one of the churchwardens.

Leadership at St Guthlac's

Every voice is important: Please help through your prayers & your views.

Over the past month David, Tina, Jane and Lesley (the Standing Committee of the PCC) have met twice with Adrian to begin to develop a Parish Profile. As a first step they have been considering the current work of St Guthlac's; our abilities, skills and interests as well as the things we would like to improve, to support the worship and mission at St Guthlac's in the future. From this they have produced a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats). This has been seen by the PCC and we would now welcome your comments on this analysis.

We aim to have a clear idea of what we all hope St Guthlac's will do in the future by 21st January when Archdeacon Tim will come to take the communion service and talk over our views. Following this we will think about the leadership needed by St Guthlac's to help us achieve our aims. We plan to do this in consultation with the congregation by Easter.

Churchwardens

READER TRAINING UPDATE You may know that I have been selected for Reader training and that St Guthlac's are generously sponsoring my training costs. Finally after a nearly a year of waiting my training has started and is proving interesting and challenging in equal measure. The course runs over two years. This year it involves three evenings and one full Sunday a month and in the New Year I will do a placement at another parish. This placement may last between 4 to 12 weeks so I will not be around much at St Guthlac's during that period. The training covers a wide range of subjects. My first assignment involved each of us thinking about the parishes in which we live, work and attend church; what they're like in terms of character, facilities, demographics, needs, challenges and opportunities and how we fit into the picture. It has been a really fascinating exercise especially given that these are the same questions we at St Guthlac's are asking ourselves as we prepare to find a new minister for the next phase of our journey. It also reminded me that these are questions not just for the church leaders but also for all of us. It led me to think about the parish around me and I would encourage each of us to do the same and consider the areas we live and the people we meet. Are we aware of the people around us in our daily lives and what their needs may be? What do we notice about the areas where we live? How have they changed? What opportunities exist to live out and share our Christian faith in this changing landscape? With all these thoughts to consider I am off to start the next assignment –prepare a bible study on a chapter of the Book of Revelations... I will keep you posted. Fiona

MEMORY CAFÉ ST GUTHLAC'S KNIGHTON This informal cafe is for people, living at home, with dementia and memory loss with their families/carers. The cafe provides an opportunity to meet up, share experiences and learn in a socially supportive and friendly environment. There are a variety of activities such as talks, quizzes, craft and simple exercises. Refreshments are provided. The cafe is supported by the Alzheimer's Society. Meetings are on the **second Friday of the month 1.30-3.00pm**. If you know someone who would be helped by this cafe please let them know. For further information please call Nita Devabhai on 0116 231 6926 The next sessions will be: **12th January**-Annette Day Action on Hearing Loss; 9th February-Farzana from Parkwood Healthcare on healthy lifestyle; 9th March-Nisha Popat - Seated exercise and laughter; 13th April-Deirdra & Stephen Cusack - Group Singing; 11th May-Clare King from the British Red Cross

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS TO OPEN HANDS A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our food collection for Open Hands. For a small congregation we collected a very generous number of carrier bags bulging with offerings, which were delivered to Open Hands in time for Christmas and were very gratefully received.

SLEEPOUT CHALLENGE# AN UPDATE: APPROACHING £1200!!!

Please accept my grateful thanks for all the support I received (in many ways) for this event. So far, I have collected £930, with a few donations still outstanding, which is truly AMAZING! When gift aid is claimed and any outstanding donations received, the total is likely to be in excess of £1100. Thank you all so much. If you have sponsored me but have not yet let me have your donation, please do so as soon as possible as I would like to send the money off within the next week. The web article is still available on the website: <https://www.leicester.anglican.org> and the radio interview can be listened to at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05nbnch>

MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS GO FURTHER. We have raised **£106.95** for Bishop Christopher's Malawi charity instead of exchanging Christmas cards with one another this year. Thank you to all who participated.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE A big thank you to all who helped at or supported the Christmas Fayre, so far we have raised over **£1000** for church funds and there are still a few items for sale at the back of church. In addition the raffle raised **£109** for the mobile health clinic in Malawi.

RUCKSACK COLLECTION Leicester Winter Night Shelter is a multi-faith night shelter that rotates around 7 venues in the city, providing emergency accommodation and food to homeless people during the coldest months of the year. They are currently in need of rucksacks to give to their guests to keep their possessions in. If you have any standard sized rucksacks in reasonable condition which you no longer use, please leave them at the back of church. Thanks Jane

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by **Thursday 10pm** to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk